

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

See a1
1. A light guard for guarding a light source extending from a light socket fixture mounted on a building structure, the light guard comprising:

a frame including a first half and a second half, each frame half including a base flange and a body, wherein the body extends generally perpendicular relative to the base flange to extend in a spaced relationship alongside and about the light source, and the base flange is configured and arranged for disposition between a light socket fixture and a building structure, and including means for removably securing the body of the two frame halves relative to each other.

2. The guard of claim 1 wherein the means for removably securing further comprises:

at least one projection disposed on a first edge of the first body half and a hole disposed on a first edge of the second body half wherein the projection is configured to slidably engage the hole.

3. The guard of claim 2 wherein the means for removably securing further comprises:

at least one projection disposed on a second edge of the second body half and a hole disposed on a second edge of the first body half wherein the projection is configured to slidably engage the hole.

See a2
4. The guard of claim 1 wherein the means for removably securing further comprises:

at least one clasp disposed on the first edge of the first body half and configured for slidably engaging a portion of the first edge of the second body half.

5. The guard of claim 4 wherein the means for removably securing further comprises:

at least one clasp disposed on the second edge of the second body half and configured for slidably engaging a portion of the second edge of the first body half.

6. The guard of claim 1 wherein the means for removably securing includes a first portion disposed on an edge of the first body half and a second portion disposed on an edge of the second body half.

7. The guard of claim 6 wherein the first portion and the second portion comprise at least one or more of a clasp, a pin, a hole, a beveled protrusion, a projection, a hook and loop fastener, a mechanical fastener, and a clip.

8. The guard of claim 1 wherein the base flange of each frame half has a generally semi-annular shape and includes at least one slot extending radially outward from a generally circular shaped, inner edge of the base flange, the slot being disposed at generally right angle relative to a side edge of the base flange so that when respective side edges of the two frame halves are joined together the slot of the first body half and the slot of the second body half are aligned diametrically opposed to each other and aligned generally parallel to each other.

9. The guard of claim 1 wherein each body includes a bottom edge having a generally semi-circular shape so that when the two body halves are joined together, the bottom edge forms a generally circular access hole for accessing a light bulb enclosed by the light guard.

10. The guard of claim 1 wherein the body extends from an edge of the base flange and defines a latticework of support members extending at angles relative to each other.

11. A method of guarding a light source mounted in a light socket fixture comprising:

securing a base portion of a frame between a light socket fixture and a building structure to cause a body portion of the frame, which extends generally perpendicularly relative to the base portion of the frame, to extend in a spaced relationship alongside and about the light source.

12. A method of guarding a light source mounted in a light socket fixture comprising:

removably securing a first base portion of a frame between the light socket fixture and a building structure to cause a first body portion of the frame, which extends generally perpendicularly relative to the base portion of the frame, to extend in a spaced relationship alongside and about the light source;

removably securing a second base portion of a frame between the light socket fixture and the building structure to cause a second body portion of the frame, which extends generally perpendicularly relative to the second base portion of the frame, to extend in a spaced relationship alongside and about the light source; and

removably securing the first body portion relative to the second body portion to protectively enclose the light source within the frame.

13. A method of installing a light guard, the method comprising:
providing a light fixture in a secured position against a mounting surface;
and

sandwiching a base flange of the light guard between the light fixture and the mounting surface to position a body of the light guard, that extends generally perpendicular outward from the base flange, to extend a spaced relationship about a light source mounted in the light fixture.

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14. The method of claim 13 wherein sandwiching the base flange further comprises:

loosening the light fixture relative to the mounting surface;
inserting the base flange of the light guard between the light fixture and the mounting surface; and
tightening the light fixture against the base flange of the light guard and the mounting surface.

15. A light guard comprising:

a base portion having a generally annular shape that defines a central hole; and

a body portion extending generally perpendicular outward from the base in a generally cylindrical shape and defining a latticework of support members.

16. The light guard of claim 15 wherein the base portion includes slots configured for receiving fasteners.

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17. The light guard of claim 15 wherein the base portion and the body portion are comprised of two halves configured substantially the same as each other and including a releasably securing mechanism mountable on at least one of the two halves for releasably securing the two halves together.

but not

18. A light guard comprising:

a base portion having a generally annular shape that defines a central hole with the central hole being sized and configured for securing the base portion directly against a mounting surface independent of a light fixture; and

a body portion extending generally perpendicular outward from the base in a generally cylindrical shape and defining a latticework of support members.

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19. The light guard of claim 18 wherein the base portion comprises at least one of the following fastening mechanisms for securing the base portion against the mounting surface, including:

a plurality of holes, a hook and loop fastener, a pressure sensitive adhesive, a glue and a wall anchor.

20. A light guard comprising:

a base portion having a generally annular shape that defines a central hole;

a body portion extending generally perpendicular outward from the base in a generally cylindrical shape and defining a latticework of support members; and

a living hinge connecting a first half and a second half of the light guard to permit the first half and the second half to be moved between an open position for access to an interior of the body portion and a closed position for preventing access to an interior of the body portion.

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